

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesy understanding and suggestions made during the interview of March 11, 2003. Specifically, the Examiner suggested that "consisting of" language be incorporated in claim 1 to make it clear that the seal between the filter media and housing consists of direct engagement. The operative amendment to claim 1 with respect to this issue is set forth as follows:

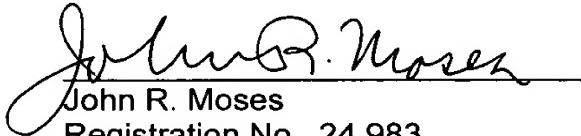
a seal between the filter media and the housing, the seal consisting of direct engagement between the nickel, chromium, molybdenum alloy of the housing and the carbon-to-carbon filter media. (emphasis supplied)

During the interview, the undersigned attorney emphasized to Examiner Hylton that the prior art does not teach a seal configured by direct engagement between carbon-to-carbon filter media and a housing made of a nickel, chromium, molybdenum alloy. The Examiner said that she would consider this concept further once it was incorporated into an entered amendment.

In that the foregoing amendment is a complete response to the issues remaining in this application, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and passed to issue. If the Examiner for any reason feels a personal conference with Applicants' attorneys might expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned locally.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: March 17, 2003

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An enclosure vent adapted to vent hydrogen gas while controlling release of volatile organic compounds from an enclosure containing transuranic waste to an environment surrounding the enclosure while being resistant to corrosion from corrosive materials including chlorinated solvents, hydrochloric acid and nitric acid, the enclosure vent comprising:

a housing defining a chamber therein having a first opening adapted to communicate with said enclosure and a second opening adapted to communicate with the surrounding environment, the housing being made of a nickel, chromium, molybdenum alloy having a resistance to corrosion from said corrosive elements for at least 200 years, and:

a unitary filter media disposed in said chamber between the first and second openings for venting hydrogen gas from the container, the filter media comprising being a carbon-to-carbon filter media for providing a hydrogen permeability greater than 10E-06 mol/S/mol fraction weight, a removal of 0.45 micron particles exceeding 99.00% at an air flow capacity less than 200 ml/min., at a pressure differential less than 1.0 inch, ~~the unitary filter media being sealed with the housing by direct engagement with the alloy comprising the housing and~~

a seal between the filter media and the housing, the seal consisting of direct engagement between the nickel, chromium, molybdenum alloy of the housing and the carbon-to-carbon filter media.